



## **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE – PUBLIC HEARING MARCH 7, 2016**

### **RB No. 356 AN ACT CONCERNING ATHLETIC TRAINERS**

Dear Senator Gerrantana, Representative Ritter and members of the Public Health Committee,

My name is Karen Myrick, and I am a professor of nursing and a nurse and I am writing to **oppose RB 356 An Act Concerning Athletic Trainers.**

The CTAPRN Society views changing the patient population for Athletic Trainers to “physically active individual” is inappropriate and confusing to patients and the public. The request asks for a significant expansion in what the ATs care provision will be treating. Furthermore, the request asks for clarity for the ATs to manage medical conditions other than injuries, outside of the musculoskeletal realm.

Current practice is consistent with the education and training of the AT. This includes the provision of health care particularly in the area of musculoskeletal injury. The change in the specific patient population is not appropriate for an AT who is trained and educated to care for athletes and currently with services in the domains of prevention, emergency care, clinical assessment, therapeutic intervention and rehabilitation of injuries sustained during sports participation.

The bill proposes a change to include the clinical evaluation and assessment and emergency care disposition and this scope will cross or conjoin the boundaries of other health care professions scope of practice. This is concerning for the risk to the population, as the education and training for an AT is not consistent with this scope, and no additional education is proposed.

Respectfully submitted by  
Karen Myrick, DNP, APRN  
Health Policy Committee  
CT APRN Society